

III. AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

IN THE ABSTRACT:

The Abstract of the Disclosure is amended as requested by the Examiner as indicated below. A clean replacement Abstract of the Disclosure is filed herewith and submitted on a separate sheet (37 CFR 1.72).

The body of a valve has an orifice that internally connects a high-pressure passage through which a refrigerant flows in and a low-pressure passage through which the refrigerant flows out. The valve ~~further comprises~~ includes a valve plug for adjusting the flow rate of the refrigerant flowing in the orifice, an operating rod for moving the valve plug in a valve opening direction, and a temperature sensing drive unit for driving the operating rod. A support ring for constraining the spherical valve plug is located on the upper-stream side of the high-pressure passage with respect to the orifice. The support ring is formed of a circular annular portion capable of elastic deformation and vibration-proof springs. The springs support the valve plug.